DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year ...

publication wish to have rejected unicites returned they must in a'l cases send stamps for that purpose.

Community of Interest in Public

Utilities. The omission from the Governor's Public Service Commissions bill of any mention of the telephone corporation has caused remark. Perhaps it was recognized that there is no real public feeling adverse to the telephone service; and it was felt therefore that in the absence of a general and deep seated clamor it would be just as well to let it alone. The significance of the fact that the telephone has not yet incurred the wrath of the Supreme Ruler is doubtless important and has a bearing

As a matter of fact the public is fairly well content with the telephone service. and has good reason to be so. It is in the main of wonderful efficiency, and that it is constantly growing cheaper is but an indifferent argument in favor of its confiscation. We hope it will not be harassed; at least, not until it has extended and perfected its system.

of its own upon the immunity of the

industry.

In view of the agitation of the public mind on the subject of "overcapitalization," might not some "community of interest" be wisely and profitably established between the State and the creature of the State? Suppose that, ten or fifteen years ago, the State [which comprehends the municipality] had proposed to the telephone interest in some such discourse wires underground and elsewhere, and to levy a certain arbitrary toll upon the use of your plant. Your franchise in its nature is affected with an intimate public interest, and therefore the State cannot afford to be indifferent to your expansion and the relation of that expansion to the common welfare. The capital nominally involved in your corporation is \$50,000,000. Now, suppose in the future you increase that capital only by so much as represents the actual cash outlay for extensions and betterments, and then when you shall have earned and paid, say, five per cent, on all said capitalization you divide all earnings in excess of that five per cent. equally between your corporation and the State?

Does not this imply a quality of Government ownership that is attractive to both the State and its creature? Does it not make the State a partner, with control in essentials; while in no sense impairing individual initiative or corporate efficiency? Rationally presented ten or fifteen years ago to the telephone interest, would it not have been embraced, and would it not have inured vastly to the welfare of that interest and equally have advantaged the State?

Expansion in these things will go on forever. Is it too late to try the experiment of Government partnership in public utilities as an alternative to Government ownership, which is repellant to the better sense of all our people?

A Crisis in Buckram.

There is reason to believe that the United States Government will not take up the complaints of Mr. SAMUEL WEIL against the Nicaraguan Government with more enthusiasm than they actually deserve. Under the wise and tranquil dispensation now existing in the State Department this country is no longer in danger of getting itself embroiled abroad at the instance of any exploiter claiming American citizenship who happens to realize less than his expectations.

In the particular case of Mr. SAMUEL WEIL we have every disposition to believe that he has been operating in Venezuela with the purest and most benevolent intentions. Nor do we venture to suggest that any temptation whatsoever has diverted him for a moment or by so much as a hair's breadth. The fact seems to be, however, that he and the Nicaraguan authorities have the existing fiscal system. Strange to disagreed over a matter of money-in say, the Dominion of Canada, which is absolute good faith, no doubt-and as the authorities in question have the of Britain's transmarine possessions, has matter the chances all seem to be that Mr. SAMUEL WEIL will have to contain himself as best he may. Apparently our Minister, Mr. MERRY, has made no protest on Mr. WEIL's behalf. It follows, therefore, that the State Department will hardly go over the head of its diplomatic agent in Nicaragua to espouse a purely private speculation at the expense of a friendly Government.

with grisly rumors of Nicaraguan spoliation of Mr. SAMUEL WELL, and burid hints of homicidal issues a not clashes between but it is going out tamely enough, we hear, and according to all present appearances will soon be smothered in the and navy, they will be quite as reluctant is that the day of the surly growl and to an Imperial Council on which the a mighty fortunate consummation! For advisory council would be clothed with the Spanish American republies in this a permanent intelligence department, hemisphere and incidentally to establish the requisite information is now, or New Zealand to one-third interest in the mutually profitable commercial relations | might be, furnished by colonial com-

with them, the sooner we win their cordial and sincere response by proofs of genuine respect and sympathy the better

The Hon. ELIHU ROOT has made himself the pioneer of our amicable grusade. We may safely look to him for a wise. tactful and effective avoidance of every obstacle to its triumphant progress. Everybody knows that we are no longer hurling defiances and threats at Venezuela in behalf of American rapacity and spoliation. Is it likely that we shall resume a happily discarded ruffianism in behalf of Mr. SAMUEL WEIL?

The Channel of Graft.

The latest aspects of the barge canal business are these:

1. The State authorities now proceed, as is their duty, to advertise the sale of another batch of bonds of doubtful legality, which they have little hope of unloading in any other quarter than upon one of the State's own sinking funds.

2. There is a difference of opinion be ween the State Engineer and the State Superintendent of Public Works as to the number of millions which can be shovelled into this bottomless ditch during the coming season of active operations. Mr. Skene thinks that \$7,500,000 will be required. Mr. STEVENS, who is well known as an expert in the financing of canal enterprises, thinks that \$5,000,000 is enough.

3. We begin to observe some exceed ingly healthy indications of the formation of a new sentiment, even in the cities along the line of the canal, in favor of calling a halt and taking an account of the mischief.

It may promote Number 3 to glance at the manner in which the totals of Number 2 are achieved. The details are not yet published, but there are entries in the annual report of the Superintendent of Public Works which purport to explain an entire expenditure of \$2.603.117 on account of the barge canal up to January 1, 1907. Consider these items:

mount paid by State Engineer and Surveyor for engineering. .. \$1,050,243 mount expended by Advisory Board of Consulting Engineers for engineering

Total for engineering Amount paid to contractors by Superin tendent of Public Works .

We have here engineering expendiures and alleged actual contract work in

the proportion of about eleven to nine! To continue with another branch of the Amount of damages allowed by Board of

Special Examiners and Appraisers \$205,801

artes and expenses That is to say, adjustment of claims for damages at a cost of about 35 per cent. of the awards!

Amount expended by said Board for sal-

The Coming Colonial Conference in London.

Although Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S proposa that a preference should be given to colonial products in the British markets was supposed to be rejected definitely at the last general election, it is now certain that the project will be broached again in the Colonial Conference that is to be held in April. This is evident from the instructions issued to the delegates from three important dependencies namely, the Australian commonwealth New Zealand and Cape Colony.

The three colonies which we have named have decided to advocate the formation of an Imperial Council for the British Empire, an imperial system of defence, and the adoption of the principle of preferential trade on the part of the mother country as well as of her daughter States. Cape Colony, for instance, will ask the conference to consider the organization of a plan of imperial defence by which the contributions of each colony should be equitably fixed. It also directs attention to the importance of ascertaining the number of trained men who can be relied upon in an emergency for the defence of the empire The Australian commonwealth and New Zealand earnestly favor the formation of an Imperial Council which shall meet in regular conferences and during the intervals be kept adequately informed by means of a permanent intelligence department.

It is evident, however, that the question in which the three colonies are most deeply interested is that of preferential trade. The Australian commonwealth declares it to be desirable that the United Kingdom grant preferential treatment to the products of the colonies, and Cape Colony, while reaffirming its determination to give preference to British manufactures in its own market, points out that the continuance of such preferential treatment will be largely dependent on the concession of some reciprocal privileges in Great Britain to British dependencies. New Zealand considers it essential to the maintenance of the preference now accorded by her to British manufactures that the mother country should at least grant a preference to such colonial products as are taxed under the most populous, opulent and powerful power to enforce their own view of the put forward no programme, but she will have no fewer than five spokesmen in the conference, her Prime Minister, Sir WILFRID LAURIER, being accompanied

by four of his colleagues. So far as preferential trade is concerned it is not easy to see what useful outcome of the April conference can be looked for, in view of the inflexible resolve of the Bannerman Government not to tax food staples coming from the The incident came roaring in upon us | United States and other foreign countries in order that a preference may be given to similar colonial commodities by admitting the latter duty free. Then, Minister MERRY and President ZELAYA; again, although the Liberals, like the Unionists, would welcome contributions from the colonies to the imperial army noise of really serious events. The truth to concede any but advisory powers the overloaded ultimatum is gone. And colonies should be represented. A merely if we really expect to make friends of no substantial authority, and as for

missioners residing in London. That was the function which for many years before our Revolutionary War was discharged by BENJAMIN FRANKLIN for Pennsylvania and Massachusetts

It would not be surprising if the result the self-governing colonies even more independent than they now are, instead of knitting them more closely to the parent State. The colonies object to appeals from the decisions of their highest courts to the judicial committees of the Privy Council, and to the reservation of legislation concerning certain subjects to the Imperial Parliament, or at least for exexamination and approval by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Then, too, the Australian commonwealth and New Zealand have decided views of their own with reference to the extension of British interests in the Pacific, views which by no means coincide at all times with those of the British Foreign Office. On all these points the Liberals are likely to show themselves more indulgent than were their Unionist predecessors.

The Clerical Sociologist.

Sociology includes everything in the world. It is therefore a favorite elective study of amateurs. It adapts itself to every want. It can be made to furnish much entertainment as well as education. In this town what may be called the "seeing life" branch of sociology is popular, especially among strangers. There are also residents who are special or regular students in that department. Perhaps curiosity is the most usual inspiration of those who attend one course or many courses in this great university of sociology. These thinkers slum it and lobster it, so to speak, with the most active professionals and "rounders. Their industry and zeal are admitted. They acquire more or less experience. at more or less expense. They "find out for themselves what is going on. Many of them develop views and regard themselves as experts.

We have no intermeddling fury about the matter. We would not spoil sport or lop the peculiar system of culture to which many sociologists devote themselves, sometimes with an affecting innocence. To be sure, vice will sometimes steal the clothes of virtue; and multitude of sins. The "respectable' man, caught by some caprice of fate or the police, in places where "respectability" is not supposed to house, can always plead his sociological yearnings and go free. Indeed, a certain superiority and sanctity attaches to him. Henceforth he is a good man who has looked composedly upon evil and knows how the world is made.

Still, is it old fashioned and narrow to believe that clergymen should keep away from sociological investigations which amount to nothing more than personal knowledge and inspection of vice? If they are called among the vicious, if they choose to live among them for purposes of religion and charity, they are to be praised. But this amateur slumming, this doubtful association with notorious vice, tends to breed suspicion among both the dissolute and the cynical and serves no useful or ameliorating purpose. Clergymen should renounce PARK-HURST and all his ways and works.

Abandoning the Antipodes.

It has been announced in San Francisco that the Oceanic Steamship Company is to relinquish its service between San Francisco and Sydney, N. S. W., by way of Honolulu, Pagopago and Auckland. The news despatches credit the SPRECKELSES with assigning as the reason for this withdrawal the failure of the ship subsidy legislation. It was, however, but a week or so ago that our cable advices from New Zealand announced that the Government of the colony had decided to withdraw their mail contract from the Oceanic line because of the irregularities of the service.

The trade route between the Pacific Coast and Australia has always been a creature of mail contract or other form of subsidy. So far as it deals with the transport of freight it is the carriage of coals to Newcastle. In the colonies the products worthy of export are fruit and wine, wheat and wool, beef and gold; California sells to the world gold, beef, wool, wheat, wine and fruit, Scant chance there for interchange of commodities. Of all these articles gold is the only one which Australia has sent to America, and the steady flow of Sydney sovereigns to the San Francisco Sub-Treasury has been an interesting phase of the world encircling sweep of fiscal

exchanges. This line to the antipodes had its beginning in the boom period just following the civil war. It reached to the South ern Cross in much the same spirit that Steinberger gobbled Samoa. The Pacific Mail was first in the field with a line from Sydney to San Francisco by way of Fiji and Honolulu. It was a picturesque voyage in southern seas past the towering heights of New Caledonia, then the distant loom of the Fijian sentine! outpost, Mount Buketatanoa, and the rattle of the anchor in the charming harbor of Galoa on the island of Kadavu, then a day of threading the countless islands of eastern Fiji, and almost every day some new archipelago coming into view There was a mail contract then, and there was keen competition for the tourist traffic, for the Pacific Mail could land the returning colonial sooner in London by days than the Peninsular and Oriental. Along about 1880 New Zealand offered a mail contract and the line was altered to take in Auckland, with a stopping of the engines off Pagopago for the transfer of

passengers and mail to Samoa. In the course of time the SPRECKELSES. ben the dominating financial interest in Hawaii, fell out with the Pacific Mail and started an island line of their own. With the Honolulu trade cut off from them, the Pacific Mail had to effect a composition, as a result of which the SPRECE-ELSES took over the line to the antipodes. For many years they conducted a monthly service with small and slow boats. and before long it became necessary to admit the Union Steamship Company of line, that is to say, one boat of every

three flew the burges of the New Zealand company, and this steamer was invariably better than the American

Alameda and Mariposa. It became necessary to meet this competition within the line itself, and the of the next conference should be to leave | Oceanic company built three high powered and able vessels, the Ventura, Sierra and Sonoma. Just about this time the annexation of Tutuila and Hawaii intervened to make the competition of the New Zealand boats impracticable under the coastwise shipping provisions of the navigation laws. With the new boats the Oceanic company began some six years ago a service of thirteen sailings in the year, a vessel leaving every third week. Now comes the end. The Oceanic company lays the blame on Congress: New Zealand lays the blame on the shortcomings of the steamship company.

After forty years the American flag is hauled down on a trade route of its own discovery, and this is done at a time when Victoria and Sydney by way of Honolulu and Fiji, and American trade and travel seeking to follow the old line must now be diverted to British bottoms and through British ports.

Generalizing in Philanthropy. Mrs. Sage's generous and compre hensive philanthropic enterprise, which was announced yesterday, illustrates the present tendency among donors of large sums for social welfare work to leave the administration of their benefactions to the judgment of others, unhampered by narrow restrictions. The scope of the Sage Foundation is broad enough to include everything that a sociologist may find interesting or think important. "To investigate and study the causes of adverse social conditions. including ignorance, poverty and vice, offers for the trustees a field of activity that the most enthusiastic will not called cramped or small.

The motive inspiring such donations is the belief or hope that somewhere in the social organization there is a correct- to the people the question as to whether able fault, to which may be charged the failure of a certain proportion of each generation of human beings to win an any effort on the part of the Legislature to honest and decent livelihood. If such in crafty hands sociology may cover a | a fault exists, and can be discovered, its correction would follow as a matter of course, however difficult the task. The State would undertake the cure, not from charitable motives but as a measure of self-interest and self-protection.

It has long been complained that many benefactions, limited by the terms of their deeds of gift to specific objects, become in time useless or productive of positive evils. This is a possibility that Mrs. Sage has foreseen and provided against as well as may be. Centuries hence, if the Sage Foundation is still in existence, its managers will not be tied down to any outgrown subject of inquiry or relief. They will be free to spend their income as seems to them best, attacking new problems as they present themselves and searching for the causes of public maladies of which this age does not dream.

The first board of trustees for the administration of this remarkable gift has been well chosen.

Colonel BRYAN's conservatism and car tion increase with the prospering years, Tuesday he told the American Roadmakers' Association in Pittsburg that "the common people have never had a chance," and reyealed the fact that "even the Government discriminates against the farmer, for it appropriates forty times as much for the army and navy as it does for the Agricultural Department." The Colonel's mighty intellect amazes and overwhelms all who observe its operation and are blessed by its product, and his passion for understatement s one of his most attractive characteristics.

It would be a tactical mistake for the bold British suffragettes to try to storm the House of Commons in trousers, as one of them proposes. No woman can look like a martyr in trousers. Base minds are at work to defeat the cause of Miss PANKHURST and her sisters with ridicule. Let the army of invasion once swagger around in the bifurcated garment that betrays their sex to the scoffer and the cause of woman suffrage would be lost. It must be an enemy that has proposed trousers.

May it please the Court. I have noticed that the May it please the Court, I have noticed that the opposing counsel have engaged in a great deal of facetious repartee during the progress of this case. A murder trial is a very serious proceeding, and I would suggest that the lawyers be instructed to eliminate all withclisms at each other's expense. Address of a juror to the Court in a case in Jersey Citic.

The name of the extraordinary man who made this protest was JOHN G. SNYDER. If his advice were to be followed generally jury duty would not be so terrible an ordeal murder trials would be much shorter, the county would save money, and the defendant would be just as well off.

Mr. MERRY then hoisted the American flag on the vessel, which proceeded to San José, Rica. New York Times.

We are informed by a trustworthy Old Salt that this vessel was surely the Wabble. No other ship, he says, could fly so high.

Envelope of an Enterprising Attorney,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Here is a

envelope I have been using as a "return stamped be suspected of an attempt at gratuitous self ad vertising, you will kindly change the indications;

SMITHSON S. SMITH, CENTENNIAL BUILDING. The idea occurred to me while riding in a postal ar and watching the postal clerks sor must be ahead of Mr. H. E. Warner and "Japan. endeavored to have others adopt the idea, ney would not. I have quite a stock on hand, so

SOMEWHERE, (N. Y.) P. O. BOX 444.

I now find myself in fashion with these envelopes SMITHSON S. SMITH SOMEWHERE, N. Y., March 12.

Down With the Poets!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Has "W. R. C. een "up against" the artistic temperament, or is he but taking into his bosom the above the sau.
Why should the poet be revered above the sau.
"The a vasty question. Would there e but taking into his bosom the sorrows of others? were more "W. R. C.'s' to take up the cudgels of retaliation for the ineffable chromo agent and the simple minded vender of bonds! The infamous dallying of poets with the weakling nerves of the grubbing underworld should be crushed down to THREE STARS. FITTSFIELD, Mass., March 12.

Irresistible Inducement.

Knicker - Does your wife listen to reason? Bocker -I think she would if it was on a party line.

THE \$101,000,000 BARGE CANAL.

Interesting Indications of a Turn in the Tide of Sentiment About the Swindle. From the Binghamton Press.

The taxpayers of the anti-canal counties will view the troubles of the canal boomers with amusement. We were unable to prevent the big scheme from sliding through the constitutional mill, but it is comforting to find that before the State has spent much of the proposed \$101,000,000 fund it has been necessary for the canal men to take breath and seek for ways of escaping from the unpleasant situation in which they find themselves

Before a single barge goes through the proposed ditch the whole system will be antiquated. Already it has been found necessary to increase the length and depth of the locks in the endeavor to make the proposed improvement keep pace with future demands. But expert traffic men direct competition has become impos- are of the opinion that the barges which sible. The Canadian Pacific has long are depended upon to carry freight through paralleled the route by its line between | the proposed canal will not be operated at a profit when the work is completed.

Every delay and obstacle with which the canal boomers have to contend increases the probability that the extravagant scheme eventually will be sidetracked or converted into something which will give the great West an adequate all American water route

From the Rochester Union and Advertiser The situation thus presented is highly interesting. If it should result in a delay long enough to create a popular demand for abandonment of the whole stupendous enterprise of loot and graft upon which

the State has entered, the taxpayers would be saved from a mighty burden, which they will otherwise be doomed to carry for many years to come.

From the Rochester Post-Express. There is only one honest thing to do. If it be ascertained on trial that the financial institutions will not buy the 3 per cent. bonds at par the Legislature should submit barge canal bonds shall be issued at a higher rate. Any circumlocution, any trickery. accomplish indirectly what cannot be accomplished directly, would be unfair to the people and illegal if not positively dishonest, and the illegality would so taint the bonds that they would not be salable at any price.

From the Utica Daily Press.

When they wanted to run the barge canal across this State some scientific gentleman argued that surely the earth should not be behind Mars in the matter of such enterprises. If a little red hot planet like Mars close to the sun could have canals, surely a salubrious and comfortable climate like this should not be without them.

Now comes Prof. Pickering of Harvard and he rather upsets that canal theory, but as a practical argument here it is of less account than formerly, because the barge canal has been voted, which is a good many years ahead of its being built. Prof. Pickering has been exploring the volcanoes of Hawaii. There he found that exceedingly rich vegetation had grown up along the cracks and crevices of the volcanic surfaces. Looked at from a distance these mammoth cracks, lined by luxurious foliage, would look like canals. Outlines of the same sort have been seen in the moon. Prof. Pickering argues that instead of being canals on Mars, the lines are only those indicating cracks in volcanic surfaces, and that after all there is no earthly evidence that the Martians are skilled as civil engineers and surveyors, and that really what they did is should have voted to have a barge canal.

From the Rochester Post-Express. We are informed that a bill is to be in troduced proposing that the rate of interest on canal bonds shall be fixed by the Governor, the Comptroller and the chairmen of the finance committees of the two houses, or by some of them, and that this bill will be submitted to the people for their action at the November election.

The advocates of the barge canal who made a strenuous campaign in 1903 and carried their project by the votes of the cities of Buffalo and New York will dread to have the question submitted again, for there has been a remarkable change in public sentiment, but there is no other way out that will stand the test of judicial scrutiny. Financiers will not take the 3 per cent, bonds at par, the State officials cannot sell them below par, and any indirect method of increasing the interest rate would so taint the bonds that nobody would buy them.

From the Utica Observer. And now we have the barge canal on our

hands, involving a greater expenditure than ever before in the history of the State. The work goes slowly. Opinions differ as to the importance with which the public may regard it. But surely we have the old canal question very much on our hands.

From the Springfield Republican Close money and the poor market for bonds have put a block in the way of enlarging the Erie Canal, for which New York State has voted at an estimated expense of over \$100,000,000. Popular enthusiasm regarding that project never did appear to be very great, and is distinctly wanting in the present juncture.

The Demand for Orientals as Household Servants. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The letter o

Mr. Willey in THE SUN of March 12 on the "Japa nese in California" hits the nall squarely on the head. Patrick and Bridget know that their places are not safe overnight if we can get competent, quiet and respectful servants, and so the Legislature is called on to keep them intrenched have long since discharged Patrick and Bridget

and enjoy a domestic peace known only to the few that employ other help. The whole country and can use, a million or more of the excellent Japa nese and Chinese household servants, and or patient and long suffering housewives are anxlously walting for them SUBURBANITE. GLEN RIDGE, N. J., March 12.

El Paso Speaks.

From the Denver Republican.

The manager of the San Carlo Opera company timost caused a riot when he cut a scene out of "the Barber of Seville," at El Paso, Tex. Press tested the second of the secon We may be shy of boiled shirts here in Texas, And of hats that have to get a daily shine. But we're up to date in music down here, strang Clear from "Lohengrin" right down to "A Lang Syne."

The left moilfs don't trouble us in Wagner We can tell 'em with one hand behind ou And there ean't no four flush impressario. Try to throw us off the operatic track.

We can pick a bum note, blindfold, in "The Dutch man, And we know just when a dissonance is sprung, e can whistle "Parsifal" with variations We can sing, or dance, "The Götterdämmerung,"

So when some op'ry manager gets chesty And gives it to us in our sev'ral necks. We make him rue the day he ever tampered With this music lovin' burg- El Paso, Tex. Panama Canal.

HOUSE SERVICE RECORDS.

Newton Sat Continuously for 29 Years and Ketcham 33 Years in All.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Up to he time when the Hon, John H. Ketcham established the record it had been accepted without question that the Hon. William S Holman of Indiana held the record for length of service in the national House of Represent-

"A. J. H." in a letter to THE SUN has made the interesting discovery that Thomas Newton of Norfolk, Va., in the last century sat continuously in the House for twenty-nine years and five days. Moreover, that after an interval of about one year he served again for two years more, or thirty-one years and five days in all, beating the Holman record more than a year. Mr. Newton's long record, however, does not displace those Messrs. Ketcham and Cannon for first and second place among records for total years of service.

All unsung, the almost forgotten and neglected Newton held the House long service record for nearly eighty years. He was not displaced until 1905, when Mr. Ketcham took his record from him. Such is fame. Mr Newton entered Congress in 1801 and left it

in 1833 Upon the occasion of the House eulogies upon Mr. Holman, the supposition that he was the member of longest service was in good faith alluded to by several of his surviving colleagues as his most distinctive

Another interesting fact is disclosed by the Newton record. He held and still holds the record for continuous House service, an honor ong conceded to the late Hon. William D. The latter served twenty-eight years and ten months, Mr. Newton twenty-nine years and five days, continuously. The four record holders for continuous service, therefore, in their order are as follows:

Thomas Newton, Virginia, 29 years and 5 days.

to months. Henry H. Bingham, Pennsylvania, 28 years. Samuel J. Randall, Pennsylvania, 27 years. If he lives, Gen. Bingham, who is still

record, inasmuch as he has less than one year to serve to do it. Taking up Newton's name in its prope place, the record of tenure of those who have served more than twenty years in the House

nember of the House, will pass the Newton

mention there chair enemy years in the	
is as follows:	
	Years
Name and State. Age.	Service
John H. Ketcham, New York	87
Joseph G. Cannon, lilinois	3
Thomas Newton, Virginia	3
William S. Holman, Indiana	36
William D. Kelley, Pennsylvania 76	21
Charles O'Nettl, Pennsylvania	21
Henry H. Bingham, Pennsylvania	26
Samuel J. Randall, Pennsylvania 62	21
Alfred C. Harmer, Pennsylvania75	21
Samuel S. Cox, Ohio-New York	26
John Reed, Massachusetts	24
Charles F. Mercer, Virginia	34
Nathantel Macon, North Carolina	2
Richard P. Bland, Missouri	.34
Robert R. Hitt, Illinois	2.
John Randolph, Virginia	20
Alexander H. Stephens, Georgia 72	10.5
Sereno E. Payne, New York	22
William Findley, Pennsylvania62	22
Joshua R. Giddings, Obio	23

There are fourteen others who have made record of twenty years each. In the above list there are only three men who still hold seats in the House: Messrs. Cannon, Bingham and Payne. LESLIE J. PERRY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12

The Head of the General Staff.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In THE SUN of March 9 it is said: "The ranking officer army is ex officio head of the General Staff." This is an error of fact. The present head of the General are several general officers higher in rank, namely Generals McArthur, Wade, Wood, Ainsworth Adjutant-General), Weston, Grant and Greely. WEST POINT, March 9. EDWARD A. HOLDEN.

The phrase "ex officio" was inadvertently employed. It is quite true that the President has the power to set aside the officer of highest rank and promote to Chief of the General Staff any one not below the grade of Brigadier-General. It was, however, the commonly accepted understanding in the first place that the distinction would go with prec the line, and this arrangemen itself so strongly to the service that the possibility of its repudiation was soon lost sight of. As a matter of fact this system of pro-

motion was pursued until General J. Franklin Bell appeared upon the scene. Young no reason under the sun why New York | Chaffee and Bates became Chief of the General Staff in the order of their respective rank. and it is no wonder that not only the public. but the army officers themselves, should have fallen into the assumption that the original idea was the correct one. We know thanks to the reminder from Professor Holden, but army men and private citizens will continue to believe that the old method was best and that it should have been perpetuated.

Henry VIII.'s Saturday Wash, From the Lancet.

The origin of Saturday night tubbing seems to be lost in the mists of antiquity. According to Mr. Sidney Young, who delivered a most erudite and amusing discourse at Barbers' Hall on the "Relations Anciently Existing Between Barbers and Surgeons," it was the custom of no less a person than King Henry VIII. to perform partial ablutions on occasional Saturday evenings. King's barber," one John Pen, Penn, or Penne, an ancestor of the famous Quaker of that name, was expected to be present at these august ceremonies, then the Defender of the Falth was pleased "to cleanse his head, legs or feet." The regulation requiring the barber's attendance was a standing der, dating apparently from the reign of Edward It is preserved in the "Liber Niger Regis," and its wording seems to imply that the solemn washings were partial and special rather than thorough, and that the King's majesty often

The royal barber, who was also a groom of the privy chamber and one of the fifteen persons allowed to enter it, was also required to shave the King daily, "having in readiness his water, basons, knives, combs. scissours and such other stuffe as to his roome doth appertaine for trimming and dressing of the King's head and beard." He was further required to "take a special regard to the pure and clean keeping of his own person and apparel, using himself always honestly in his conversation without resorting to the company of vile persons," and so on. Thus we have the beginnings of asepals. When he was shaving the King a knight of the chamber

or squire of the body, or both, were required to be present in order to prevent foul play. The porrall of Pen figures prominently in Holbein's fa mous picture of Henry VIII. delivering a charter to the barbers and surgeons on the occasion of their union in one body.

The Birds' Silent Call to Arms. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In Central

Park is a large rock, covered with trees, between the duck pond and the cottage. In the top of one of these is the remains of a rather large nest in which several sparrows had started nest building last Sunday, as sparrows build together. While i was standing on the walk watching them a squirrel started up the tree, which is bare excepting for the top well filled with small branches. The squirrel went up lively to within four or five feet the sparrows, where he stopped for a few seconds Then in two or three jumps he was looking up. up and in the middle of the old nest

The three or four builders seemed to be taken by surprise and came tumbling out, but they stuck to the nearest branches. I could not flear a sound, out in about one minute two sparrows came in a straight line from a near point. Then a few more came from another direction. (ill within less than two minutes the top of the tree was black with sparrows. Not a sound was to be heard, nor was any hasty motion to be seen; but after a seeming conference three or four of the birds topped over on the edge of the nest and Mr. Squirrel suddenly made a clean jump out to a branch and started for the ground as if he had important business there, followed by a few of the birds till he was out of Then they went back to the top of the tree. signt. After a few minutes more the birds began to leave by ones and twos as they had come. But how did they all get the call for help? FIRST AVENUE.

NEW YORK, March 13.

Hopeless. First Street Cleaner-It must be a job to dig the

Second Street Cleaner - Yes; it doesn't do any good to wait for it to mela.

PORTO RICO.

The Inaction of Congress and the Feeling

of the Natives. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Fifty-ninth Congress passed into history without lifting a single finger in Porto Rico's favor. After President Roosevelt's special message recommending the bestowal of

American citizenship upon the islanders a deadly silence followed his timely advice. Many interested and disinterested onlookers attributed the unwillingness of Congress to confer upon the Porto Ricans a clear and comprehensive international status and the political reforms demanded by them to the economic prosperity of their fertile country. outset of the planting of the Stars and Stripes in Porto Rico there was much suffering on account of the sudden change and the famous ropical cyclone which devastated some of the agricultural districts, it is equally certain that with the advent of free trade with the United States in less than six years sugar, tobacco and other staples are readily and profitably sold, and many infant industries have augmented their output and increased the quality and value of their production and elaboration. To that real and encouraging solvency of Porto Rico is laid all the blame for the unconcern of the last Congress on this

vital question. A friend of the writer, a Representative in the last national legislative body, on being asked to give us a "lift" depicted thus in a nutshell the state of mind into which his colleagues had fallen: "If Porto Rico is wealthy and her industries flourishing, surwealthy and ner industries notifishing, sur-passing in her actual prosperity any recorded during the palmy days of the Spanish regime, what more do they want, the ungrateful islanders? Is it not enough for them to know that Old Glory is waving over their public

islanders? Is it not enough for them to know that Old Glory is waving over their public buildings?"

Not long ago the gist of a patriotic article published in a native newspaper by the Hon. R. Matienzo Cintron, late Speaker of the insular House of Delegates, was cabled to the newspapers here. Though the reported translation of the most salient part of the article was exaggerated as to the real meaning of some of the statements, nevertheless the native leader voiced the sentiments of his countrymen when he said in part:

When, with marks of respect, a person of high breeding crosses the threshold of a house in order to cooperate to the common welfare of its dwellers, it latter would be adjudged as confirmed "snobs" it helr refusal to allow that man to enter were couched in these or like terms: "We hardly are now in a position to allow you to pass, as sen are not as yet entitled to be the recipient of such an honor."

an honor."

Well and good to be told: "Señores Porto Ricans, there is no doubt that you are all very excellent individuals, but we have won our American citizenship without your assistance. We are, then, the owners of that elevating attribute, and we do not think ourselves bound to confer it upon the orst newcomer, no matter if he is the most exalted personage of the world."

You, North Americans, canrefuse us the bestowal

not think ourselves bound to confer it upon the first newcomer, no matter if he is the most exalted personage of the world."
You, North Americans, canrefuse us the bestowal of your citizenship. That is within your sovereign right. But, finding ourselves by reason of your refusal without any status in the world's affairs, you cannot deny us the concression of independence. That is within our sovereign right. To bold us in subjugation without giving us a proper place in the fold of the national family is an attack against the Monroe Doctrine. If a million of South Americans can be attached without consulting their will as to their proper status said doctrine stands transgressed.

Therefore, if the American Congress persist in its refusal to confer upon us either the American citizenship so often asked or the independence which that now would be of no advantage to us, but which, however, once proffered we could not all deceney refuse offiand, then our claim in all honor and righteousness should pass into the hands of the American people.

And in conclusion let us proclaim to the whole world this hard fact: Citizenship bereaved of self-government will be worthless for us. It would be debasing and a declaration to the world that American citizenship and servitude are compatible. If such a thing could be possible, the hour would have then arrived to say to our country: "Porto Rice, prepare yourself to conquer your liberty with arms in hand."

NEW YORK, March 13. D. COLLAZO. Industries of the Far East.

Siberian butter goes to Hamburg, is repacked nd sent to the Far East as a German Russian sugar goes to Japan in an Austrian disguise and Russian called is sold there under a Ger the Russo-Japanese Commercial Company has Shipbuilding in Japan employs 10,000 men at

Nagasaki, 8,000 at Kobe and 4,000 at Osaka. All the Japanese yards are full of orders.

At the end of 1905 Japan had \$89,000 tonnage in nerchant steamers and 336,000 tonnage in merchant salling vessels, a total of 1,275,000 tons, of 298,000 more tonnage than before the Russo-Japa

Japanese savings bank deposits on July 81, 1996, were \$18 500 000 more than on December 31, 1905 great gain for only seven months. The Bank of Japan has five times as much cash on hand as its entire capital stock.

Formosa Island (owned by Japan) now has 23

350,000 tons of freight a year, with receipts amou ing to \$566,000 a year. Practically all of this has been created since Japanese occupation in 1895. "To-day," says Lord Redesdale of England, 'Japan's finances rank with the best in the world, When Japan made her appearance as a borrowe in London she had to pay the Oriental Bank 12 per cent. interest on a loan of \$5,000,000. In many features of material progress Japan has outsripped

miles of railway carrying 1 444 700 passengers and

her teachers. The old Japan is dead, but its spirit China's trade with Japan has inreeased 60 per cent. In the last two years.

Many Chinese are becoming naturalized Japanese, The Japanese Consuls in China are legally emowered to confer Japanese citizenship. Many of the native Philippine woods will float and if handled by the expert raftsmen of the Pa-

the quiet inland seas to Manila, and possibly to China, says the Far Eastern Review of Manilas Hongkong and Shanghat. India will eventually control the Oriental coal markets. At present Japan is her only compe tor, but Japan's coal area is only 6,000 square miles, with an annual output of 10,000,000 tons. India's present output is not as much but her possibilities

as a coal producer are far greater than Japan & even including the Fushun mines in Manchuria Mantia is freely using reenforced concrete for its new buildings with marked success. being used for culvert pipes and other purposes. India is using much portland cement in building for temples particularly. The imports of cement in 1906 were of the value of \$1.070,275, mainly from

the United States, Great Britain, Belgium and Manila is the principal lumber market of the Philippines, says the Far Eastern Review. Here are located five of the most important mills, cutting timber sent from all parts of the Islands. Three of the mills have modern machinery. bined sawing capacity of the five mills is 100,000 feet a day. With proper training Filipines are found to be apt in handling machinery. The islands still import Oregon pine and California redwood freely. Several small mills are now operating through the islands and others are being erected.

In time the lumber industry will be an emous in the Philippines. Chinese cities object so strongly to additions openings being made in their walls that the new rallways are compelled to build their stations just outside. Neither railways nor trains can ente

the cities Nankin, China, is to have an electric light system of the most modern kind, also a new waterworks Column after column of the newspapers in Far East is filled with news about railways build true as to Japan and the Federated Mainy States.

"Man With the Twisted Lip" in Real Life. From the London Tribune. A curious parallel in real life to the Sherbell

Holmes episode of "The Man With the Twist" Lip," which attracted much attention a conyears ago, was recalled at Penge Petty Session when Cecil Browne de Smith was summored it his wife on the ground that he had described by and neglected to pay for her maintenance in 1904, said Mrs. de Smith's solicitor, the defeadant fived in Norwood with his wife and child and a to the city" daily. It was eventually discovered by the police that on arrival at London Bridge ha would change his good clothes for rags, and pir tending to be paralyzed obtain considerable sums from the charitable under cover of selling main He was arrested and sentenced to three man s

Swiss Suffragettes.

From the Lonion Tribune Women of all classes in Geneva have termed an association to secure for themselves the suffrage in every department of public life, and especia the right to vote in Parliamentary elections 100 vice president and the secretary of the associa are members of the Chamber of Deputies and several university professors have accepted infact offices. Many public men are giving their support

to the movement Notice to Pintecrats. From the Harrard Lampoon

If those aspiring souls who give pay architects to perpetuate their infamy give the corporation cold cash to make needed in evements they would have special homns sung in their honor on class day.